

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Preliminary Amendment is made to more particularly claim the present invention and in response to the Final Office Action dated May 9, 2007.

Claims 1-8, 10-41, and 43-52 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-5, 13-24, 35-38, and 47-52 have been rejected. Claims 1, 13, and 35 have been amended. Support for the amendments is found in canceled claims 2-5, 14-24, and 36-38, respectively, and on page 6, lines 14-15, on page 9, lines 5-16, on page 10, lines 18-21, on page 11, line 21, to page 12, line 2, on page 12, line 2, on page 13, lines 13-17 and 19-22. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been entered. Claims 2-8, 10-12, 14-34, 36-41, and 43-46 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1, 13, and 35 remain pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has stated:

Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawecky et al., US 5,963,625 (hereinafter referred to as "Kawecky")...

Claims 47-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sherr et al., US 2002/0154157 A1 (hereinafter referred to as "Sherr")...

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections. Applicants respectfully submit that Kawecky does not teach or suggest the combination of steps and elements as recited in amended independent claims 1, 13, and 35. Claims 2, 14, 36, and 47-52 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has stated:

Claims 3, 15 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawecki et al. in view of Javed et al., US 2005/0273827 A1 (hereinafter referred to as "Javed")...

Claims 3, 15, and 37 have been canceled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 13, and 37 are patentable over the cited references. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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